

SENATE BILL 1214

By Crutchfield

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to postsecondary
financial assistance from net lottery proceeds.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-911(a), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(a) To continue to receive a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, a student at an eligible postsecondary institution shall continue to meet all applicable requirements for the scholarship and shall reapply for the scholarship upon attempting thirty (30), sixty (60), or ninety (90) semester hours. At the end of the semester in which the student has attempted a total of thirty (30) semester hours, the student shall have achieved a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 to continue to receive the Tennessee HOPE scholarship. Eligibility for the Tennessee HOPE scholarship shall also be reviewed at the end of the semester in which a student has attempted a total of sixty (60) or ninety (90) semester hours. At the end of the semester in which the student has attempted a total of sixty (60) or ninety (90) semester hours, the student shall achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 to continue to receive the scholarship for the following academic year.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-911(c), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(c) A student receiving a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, who ceases to be academically eligible for the scholarship because the student fails to achieve the cumulative grade point average required at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted a total of thirty (30), sixty (60) or ninety (90) semester hours, or one

hundred twenty (120) semester hours if the student is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program requiring more than one hundred twenty (120) semester hours, may regain the HOPE scholarship, if the student continues to meet all applicable nonacademic requirements for the scholarship, attends an eligible postsecondary institution without the HOPE scholarship, achieves a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at the end of any semester in which eligibility would have been reviewed under this section had the student not lost the scholarship, and reapplies for the scholarship. A student who regains the scholarship and then loses the scholarship a second time, by failing to achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at the end of a subsequent semester in which academic qualifications are reviewed, may not regain the scholarship. No retroactive award of a Tennessee HOPE scholarship shall be made under this subsection (c) for semester hours attempted in order to regain the scholarship.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-929(e), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(e)

(1) TSAC shall review a student's eligibility at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted thirty (30) semester hours. If a student receiving a Tennessee HOPE access grant has achieved a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted thirty (30) semester hours, the student shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship and, if the student's adjusted gross income at the time of review does not exceed thirty-six thousand dollars (\$36,000), an ASPIRE award under § 49-4-915.

(2) If a student receiving a Tennessee HOPE access grant does not achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted thirty (30) semester hours, but the student, without financial assistance from lottery proceeds, continues to attend an eligible postsecondary institution and achieves a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted sixty (60) or ninety (90) semester hours, or one hundred twenty (120) semester hours, if the student is enrolled in an undergraduate degree program requiring more than one hundred twenty (120) semester hours, then the student shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, if the student meets all other applicable requirements. If such student's adjusted gross income, at the time at which such student achieves academic eligibility, does not exceed thirty-six thousand dollars (\$36,000), the student shall be eligible for an ASPIRE award under § 49-4-915.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-931(a)(4), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(4) Attend an eligible postsecondary institution and attempt at least twelve (12) semester hours;

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-931(b), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(b) A nontraditional student shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted a total of twelve (12) semester hours, if the student has a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75. A nontraditional student who does not achieve a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 at the end of the semester in which the student has attempted a total of twelve (12)

semester hours shall be eligible for a Tennessee HOPE scholarship, if the student achieves the required cumulative grade point average at the end of any semester in which eligibility is reviewed under § 49-4-911.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.